

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending and claims 8-12 and 18 are withdrawn from consideration. By this Amendment, claim 19 is amended. Applicants gratefully appreciate and thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-7 and 13-17 contain allowable subject matter. However, for reasons as discussed below, all the claims are allowable, and thus, reconsideration and reexamination is respectfully requested.

I. Claim 19 Defines Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kawachi (JP64-25573). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

In particular, Kawachi does not disclose or even suggest a thin film transistor where a gate insulating film is formed at least over the channel, source, and drain regions, as recited in claim 19.

Instead, Kawachi discloses in Fig. 1 that the gate insulating film 2 only covers the channel region.

Additionally, Kawachi does not disclose or even suggest the channel region having a partially distorted portion distorted in a thickness direction of the channel region, as recited in claim 19. Contrary to that asserted in the Office Action, Kawachi does not disclose the channel region having a partially distorted portion 10 distorted in a thickness direction of the channel region. Instead, Kawachi discloses a high density defect layer 10 in the channel region is formed by doping Ar⁺ into the channel, but does not distort any shape in the channel.

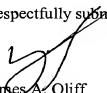
As such, Kawachi does not disclose or even suggest a "distorted portion" that looks like an indentation section 155 in Fig. 3 or bulged section 156 in Fig. 6 of the application. Thus, claim 19 defines patentable subject matter. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) with respect to claim 19 is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-7, 13-17 and 19 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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